

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

June 26, 2008

Minutes of the Economic Development Commission held at 8:15 A.M., on Thursday, June 26, 2008 at North Haven Town Hall.

Members Present: Ralph Durante, LuAnn Buono, Thomas Dunham, William Gambardella, Walter Mann, Deborah Moore, Radha Prasad, Deborah Moore, Frank Maher

Members Absent: Walter Nester

Also Present: First Selectman Janet McCarty, Alan Fredricksen

The following materials were either mailed to the members prior to this meeting or distributed at this time:

1. Agenda – June 23, 2008
2. Minutes of Meeting held on May 22, 2008

PUBLIC HEARING – JUNE 19TH – UNIVERSAL DRIVE

Mr. Durante stated that the public hearing was held on June 19th. The vote was 110-30 to make the driveway on Universal Drive a public road. The road, which was built by the owners of the North Haven Pavilion (Target Plaza), separates the plaza from a new plaza being built by Eclipse Development Group.

COLUMBUS DAY RECEPTION – JUNE 26TH

Mr. Durante stated that the reception will be held tonight (June 26th) at Athem/Quinnipiac. He said that the Commission members did a lot of work, especially in getting the food donated for the event. Mr. Durante also said that Athem has been very cooperative in sponsoring this event.

BRANCO – UNIVERSAL DRIVE

Mr. Durante stated the Mr. Harke owns a building on Universal Drive and he is trying to obtain tenants for the building. Alan Fredricksen and Ralph will meet with Mr. Harke next week.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORP

Mr. Durante said that this is a very important issue and he would like to get the corporation up and running this year. The paperwork is already done. We need to select a Board of Directors. Mr. Durante asked Commission members if they would put a list together of possible candidates for the Board. He said we need to find successful sponsors who can help finance this corporation. Once the corporation has been established, the Commission will work on fundraising.

MONTOWESE STEERING COMMITTEE – WASHINGTON AVENUE, UNIVERSAL DRIVE, STATE STREET

Mr. Gambardella and Ms. Buono will head-up the Montowese Steering Committee. Ms. Buono also volunteered to work on the Washington Avenue (south side) steering committee. Mr. Durante will handle the north side of Washington Avenue. Mr. Durante stated that we need commission members to work on the Universal Drive and State Street steering committees.

MONTOWESE MEAT CENTER

The owner of Montowese Meat Center (B. Shay) has found another location on Middletown Avenue not far from its current location. Mr. Durante stated that he met with all the store owners in that shopping center to help them find other rentals in North Haven. Three (3) other tenants were successful in finding locations in North Haven.

MEETING WITH B. LANDINO AND H. CRISCUOLO

Mr. Durante met with B. Landino (Rite Aid developer) and H. Criscuolo to discuss their plans for the Montowese shopping center. Mr. Durante said he would like to have both parties work on cleaning up the gas station at corner of Quinnipiac/Middletown Avenue. This site has been vacant for quite a while.

STOP & SHOP WAREHOUSE – BUZZUTO’S

There is a possibility that Buzzuto’s may lease part of the distribution center. Mr. Durante commented that companies are struggling in this economy and it is hard to find tenants.

FALL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BREAKFAST

Mr. Durante asked Mr. Maher to chair the committee for the Economic Development breakfast in the fall. Mr. Mann, Mr. Dunham, and Ms. Buono will help. Mr. Durante said that we need to find other locations to hold our functions. He asked the Commission members to think about this and make suggestions. Commission members recommended Covidien, Marlin, Mossberg, the gym at Mildred Wakely Recreation Center or possibly the high school when school is not in session.

QUEBECOR JOB FAIR

The job fair will take place on July 10th at Anthem and is being sponsored by the Connecticut Department of Labor.

PHIL DEPERI

Mr. Durante said that he will have Mr. DePeri, a business consultant in North Haven, set up a table at the job fair on July 10th at Anthem.

RABINA PROJECT

First Selectman McCarty stated that the Town has hired an Engineer and he begins work on July 14th. She also said that the Rabina Project is moving along.

The next Economic Development Commission meeting is scheduled for August 28th at 8:15 am. We will meet at Town Hall, first floor conference room.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Commission Mr. Durante moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:25 AM, seconded by First Selectman McCarty.